

Helen Brighton

ENGL 309

Dr. Seaman

Paper 1

Reading Medieval Society Through the Hall

In the Middle Ages, the hall was the center of the community, a gathering place for the group's best and strongest that represented the society's greatness in the hall's grandeur and the material wealth displayed there. Although there are numerous differences between the tribal culture of King Hrothgar and the Danes in *Beowulf* and the courtly world of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table in Marie de France's *Lanval*, the space of the hall is used in both poems not only to show the achievements and strengths of the society but especially to reveal their weaknesses and vulnerabilities.

**THIS IS HOW YOUR PAPER
SHOULD BE FORMATTED**

Works Cited

Beowulf. Trans. Chris Toller. NY: Smith Publishing, 1995.

Wells, Eileen. "Finding the Hero in *Beowulf*." *Studies in Anglo-Saxon Culture* 22.3 (2006): 196-219.

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SHOULD LOOK LIKE THIS**